

March 6, 2013

re: SB374

To Whom It May Concern;

I am deeply concerned as a parent of a 12 yr. old and as a resident of Connecticut that SB374 may have been proposed with all good intentions, but it is fraught with a myriad of potential problems. In the aftermath of the Newtown tragedy I understand the wish to do something, but in this case a rush to enact legislation that may do more harms than good and cause a nightmare of conflicting interpretations is a mistake.

I am most concerned about the state trying to act as parent; it can never do so and if it attempts to it will do a very bad job; the legality of such attempt also stands on very shaky ground. If this sort of "assessment" is allowed then what will prevent the state from deciding what my child should eat for breakfast, how much exercise he should get, whether he has the proper amount of friends, or whether he can say from memory the Pledge of Allegiance? It is a gross infringement of my right as a parent to care for and safeguard my child.

It would be far better for the state to review the existing statutes, amend them as necessary, make sure they are funded properly and ensure that children at risk are given access to existing treatment and programs.

Sincerely,

Daniel Chase
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